



Chairmen Michael Powell. Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington Dc 20544

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September 17, 2002

Marie-France Boisselle 9730 Wilshire Blvd., #216A Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Chairman Michael Powell Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 2 554

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Dear FCC Chairman Michael Powell.

I am writing to orge you to strengthen, not repeal, the few remaining rules that prevent near total concentration of ownership in the clutches of a few corporations. The current domination of the radio, broadcast and newspaper industries by a handful of companies is already damaging our democracy. Already dramatically loosened over the past decade, ownership restrictions that, for example, keep a single television network from owning stations that broadcast to more than 35 percent of the nation's homes or a single company from owning more than eight radio stations in the same market, are crucially important if we are to protect our nation from the very real dangers of media monopolies.

As America's Founding Fathers understood, a tree, diverse and vigorous press is a necessary bedrock foundation for a functioning democracy. In recent decades, however, responsible news coverage and the presentation of a broad range of political views have become increasingly threatened. Corporate chains now control nearly all radio and television stations. Massive budget cutbacks for news departments, the dumbing-down of political coverage, and even dangerous demagoguery have become the norm in America's mainstream media.

Those private interests who support gutting the FCC's media ownership regulations point to new media avenues like cable television and the Internet. Here, too, however, we find the same handful of familiar names dominating what information the vast majority of Americans receive on a daily basis. The massive telecommunications lobby defends repeal of ownership regulations as a source of new business "efficiencies," yet it is the FCC's responsibility to defend the rights of consumers not corporations.

As part of your 90-day comment period, I am asking you to stand up for the free marketplace of ideas supported by a free, diverse and independent press by supporting and strengthening current limits on media ownership consolidation.

I also want to urge you in the strongest way to reach out to ordinary citizens to hear their views, rather than to the well-paid lobbyists of those who stand to benefit financially from changing the FCC's rules.

I look forward to hearing where you stand on this important issue.

Sincerely.

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Chairman Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554



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To Chairman Michael Powell.

We are writing to you as concerned American consumers and business owners who are fearful that you and our elected leaders may fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'.

Chairman Powell, you've announced that the Federal Communications Commission will hold a special hearing Oct. 7 to discuss the state of the telecommunications sector and steps to restore its financial health. Chairman Powell, you've said the hearing would bring together experts from the financial community and academic economists. Mr. Powell, you've also said the hearing would discuss "what measures need to be taken to revitalize and restore the financial health of the telecommunications industry, restore public trust and prevent further erosion from the current financial turmoil in this sector." Please Mr. Powell, do not bow to pressure from the Baby Bells

We agree the Telecom industry is in a mess but bailing them out by setting the clock back 20 years is not the way to do it. The mess has been created by economic recession, inferior management decisions and creative accounting mixed in with a good dose of corporate scandal...NOT by deregulation. Since deregulation AT&T's long distance rates have fallen from 35 cents a minute to around 5 cents a minute greatly benefiting both businesses and the general public.

Competition in the telecom industry has benefited greatly by the 1996 Telecommunications Act. But this competition is being threatened by requests being made to the FCC by Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILECs) such as Qwest. Southwestern Bell and other regional Bells which, if allowed, would essentially bypass the mandates of the Telecom Act of 1996. Provisions of this Act require that the various ILECs unbundle their networks as a prerequisite to being allowed back in the long distance markets.

We commend the deregulation outlined in the 1984 and 1996 Telecom Acts and believe it protects the interest of people like us... the consumer. Don't allow us, the consumers. to be punished by allowing the Baby Bell's to apply pressure on the FCC to rescind, revoke or amend this Act.

We, as American consumers, want the choice to PICK WHO WE SPEND OUR HARD EARNED MONEY WITH.....it is called 'free market'! Competition has always been good for the people of this great nation!

As Independent Representatives of Excel/Variec Communications, we are on the firing line trying to give the consumer Setter services at better prices through competition for Local and Long Distance phone services and our business would be irreparably harmed by any rollback of the terms of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Thank you,

Rick Snail Jan Snail 4512 Nicholas Omaha, NE 68132 402-558-1312

CC:

Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy Commissioner Michael J. Copps Commissioner Kevin J. Martin





Chairman Michael K Powell Jederdl Communication Commission 445 13th Street SW Washington P. C. 20554

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Chairman Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman.

I am writing to express my concerns as an American consumer and the disaster in the telecommunications industry. Now is the time to take action instead ofturning a deaf ear. The three critical areas that need to be addressed are as follows, the future viability of telecommunications infrastructure and networks, the continued deceitful harassment of consumers by so called Resellers of local telephone services, and the unrealistic and outmoded regulations that results in a disservice to all local phone users.

This is the situation that first needs to be addressed. Regulators have allowed competitors, in the local network, to lease access lines from local phone companies at prices substantially below cost. It may look like competition from afar, but actually it is a scheme that could end up discouraging investment in the nation's telecommunications infrastructure. *Competitors have no need to invest infacilities they don'town and which they can lease at rent-controlled rates*. By forcing heavily discounted pricing of the so-called UNE-P, (unbundled network element platform) is forcing established companies to sell parts of their networks to other companies at prices well below cost and therefore creating a disincentive for more companies to invest in viable networks and build sustainable businesses.

Secondly, consumers will suffer and can not benefit from these heavy discounts, because they drain the resources that established companies such as SBC need to maintain high-quality, low-cost universal service. As an American consumer I am tired of the constant harassment by Resellers of local telephone services. The simple fact, that they never tell the whole truth about their services, and who will be the truly responsible company to service my telephone when needed.

The current regulatory structure that was created as a result of the 1996 Federal telecommunications law has not kept pace with the tremendous amount of change in the industry. Consumers now have wide-ranging choices for local service, including wireless and cable television. Mandating the repackaging and resale of network services through deep discounts that are simply pocketed by competitors not only doesn't benefit consumers, but undermines the viability of the entire network. I truly feel that everyone would benefit if government simply allowed the market to work. Regulators need to understand how decisions they make can either help lift the entire telecommunications industry...or unnecessarily keep it down.

I look forward to your thoughts and expect to hear from you soon. I am also counting on your immediate action on this **matter**.

Sincerely,
Sichard Farmhild



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Dear Mr. M. Le Powell 10-1-02 A Free , diverse and vigorous press is a recessary bedrock DUR Forkding Fathers of thus Great Nation believed. We should be sure of not having a nonopolized source of exposed to Please support and try and Shengthen current limits on media ownership ansolid No news (manapolized news) is god News-maybe in this case Le right be better off generic radio stations time in on believes in news - pro, moray grabbing companies



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19 Spring Row Road

Sept. 30, 2002

Dear Chairman Powell:

I sem writing to you as a concerned american consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a smoke screen and mirrors play! I STrandy BELITEVE + Agree in the I think it was the best think that was done to protect the consumer ina very long time. What has happined in the less consumer ina very long time was done for GREED of pockether less communications industry was done for GREED of pockether less communications industry was done for GREED of pockether less communications. Consumus diel not do this OwnER'S CEO's and stockheders die Nort Phinish me, the consumer by allowing the Baby Bella and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competitions. It is losing money because of open competitions. I as an american consumer want the choice to Plek WHO I SPEND MY HARN FARNED MONEY WITH! OUR Founding Fathers died in giving as our liberal freedom of choice. Sont turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the write thing and have the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition, It is called FREE MARKET! VICTORY IN LIFE! Thank you.

Respectfully, Maistay, Mille